

## RESEARCH FOCUS

PRO-DAIRY

By Julie Berry

# Farm partnerships apply research

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The research issue of The Manager is a time to review farm practices. To look at areas of improvement. And to get a peek at what's new. The dairy industry is energizing because it is constantly evolving. Some of that change happens through pure ingenuity on the farm. Some of it happens because of applied research on the farm. What's clear is that it requires partnerships of all types. This issue features a number of on-farm research projects and highlights partnerships between researchers, organizations, industry, and farms. Research presented in this issue has an eye toward being practical, and making farms more efficient and profitable with healthy cows, and production of high quality dairy products.

Transition cow biology and management continues to be a major theme of research across the Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Veterinary Medicine at Cornell. Research from the groups of Drs. Tom Overton, Daryl Nydam and Jessica McArt highlight opportunities for management and nutritional strategies that improve cow health and performance, and includes a review of on-farm monitors to analyze blood calcium in fresh cows. Recent research investigated the effect of source of supplemental magnesium and calcium, and postpartum feeding rate of magnesium, on mineral status and

**This Manger  
issue from  
PRO-DAIRY  
focused on  
applied research.**

performance in the transition period. Other research investigates starch and fiber levels to balance energy density and rumen health in fresh cow diets.

Research from Quality Milk Production Services reviews the emerging mastitis pathogen *Lactococcus* and links cow characteristics and premilking udder preparation on milk flow and teat condition.

Cornell's Robert & Anne Everett Professor of Dairy Cattle Genetics Dr. Heather Huson is seeking to identify the genetic mechanisms that contribute to mastitis and lameness, including analysis of digital cushion thickness.

Dr. Amir Sadeghpour, a Cornell Post Doctoral Associate, links nitrogen inputs in soil and fertilizer practice to nitrous oxide emissions, a prevalent greenhouse gas, related to corn production.

Dr. Julio Giordano, Cornell's Assistant Professor of Dairy Cattle Biology and Management, and recent M.S. graduate Benjamin Scott, present results of a field study of 55 NY herds that links herd-level factors with culling risk.

Julie Berry (jrb7@cornell.edu) edits The Manager for PRO-DAIRY.

**Save the date!**

For more information, visit: <http://prodairy.cals.cornell.edu/conferences/>

**Upcoming PRO-DAIRY & Extension Conferences**

- Calf & Heifer Congress 2016: December 7 & 8, 2016 at the Doubletree in East Syracuse, NY.
- 2017 Operations Managers Conference: January 24 & 25, 2017 at the Holiday Inn, Liverpool/Syracuse.
- 2017 Herd Health and Nutrition Conference: April 12, 2017 at the Holiday Inn, Liverpool/Syracuse, in collaboration with the Northeast Agribusiness and Feed Alliance.